



TESTIMONY BY:
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**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

April 13, 2023
10:00 A.M.

State Capitol, Conference Room 312 & Videoconference

S.C.R. 59

URGING THE STATE OF HAWAII, CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU, FEDERAL ENTITIES, AND PRIVATE LAND OWNERS TO WORK TOGETHER TO IMMEDIATELY OPEN THE SECTION OF THE WAIANAE COAST EMERGENCY ACCESS ROAD EXTENDING PAAKEA ROAD OUT TO LUALUALEI NAVAL ROAD FOR PUBLIC USE ON A PERMANENT BASIS.

House Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** S.C.R. 59 and provides the following comments.

The DOT is committed to the improvement of the resiliency, mobility, accessibility, and safety of the transportation system on the Waianae Coast. DOT is currently seeking agreement with roadway owners to allow design and construction of "Paakea Road Improvements, Lualualei Naval Road to Hakimo Road, Project No. HWY-O-03-20". Completion of this project will be part of the proposed alternate access route for the Waianae Coast community.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

SCR-59

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 10:07:34 AM

Testimony for TRN on 4/13/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
CYNTHIA REZENTES	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

When the Waianae Coast Emergency Access Route was conceived and an EA/EIS was done, it was always the residents intent that this portion of Pa`akaea Rd be open 24 hours per day to provide a second route for residents who live in the interior of Lualualei Valley an alternative to driving to Farrington Highway and then along the coast to either access shopping areas in the Lualualei/Nanakuli areas of Farrington Highway or provide another location to access Farrington Highway closer to exiting the coast line.

Fulfilling this original intent will benefit both those who live within the valley and those who must use Farrington Highway from the rest of the coastline to access these shopping locations or to leave the coastline.

SCR-59

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 6:36:44 PM

Testimony for TRN on 4/13/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tammi Gumban	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly support as a collective and a resident of Nanakuli for 50 years, please help us. Traffic is Nutz!! This will assist with another means of travel and alternative ways.

SCR-59

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 7:04:48 PM

Testimony for TRN on 4/13/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
NANCY JONES	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Kila, and Honorable Committee Members:

I present this testimony to SUPPORT of SCR 59 (mirroring HCR 174 / HR 179) — which urges cooperation among the State of Hawai`i, City and County of Honolulu, federal entities, AND private land owners to permanently AND immediately open the Section of the Wai`anae Coast Emergency Access Road connecting Pa`akea Road and Lualualei Naval Road for public use.

We are long-time Wai`anae residents and remember – VIVIDLY – the lack of road access on or off the Leeward Coast for approximately 1 week following Hurricane Iniki in September 1992. As you may know, Farrington Highway is the ONLY regular access and egress route for all Leeward Coast communities. On numerous occasions, Farrington Highway has endured assorted shutdowns due to weather, catastrophic traffic accidents, major construction bridge/road work and flooding due to water main breaks – among other reasons. Presently, the Wai`anae Coast Emergency Access Road consists of gated roads that can ONLY be opened when deemed necessary or when requested by the Honolulu Police Department. The only other access/egress route off the Wai`anae Coast is the Kolekole Pass road, which is STILL – after over a decade – undergoing repairs and can only be used by emergency vehicles in the event of catastrophic natural disasters. Given the severe lack of Leeward Coast road access, the critical alternate route that is the Wai`anae Coast Emergency Access Road MUST be made permanently available to Leeward Coast residents.

For all of the above reasons and to alleviate Leeward Coast traffic and improve public safety, I urge your Committee to please pass SCR 59 (which mirrors HCR 174 / HR 179) with sufficient funding if necessary -- and to please ensure that these combined efforts commence ideally in 2023 to benefit all Leeward Coast communities as soon as practical.

Mahalo for this opportunity to present this testimony supporting SCR 59.

Nancy Jones

Hydroponics Alternatives LLC

PO Box 1472, Wai`anae, HI 96792 / Email: nancyhydroalt@gmail.com

SCR-59

Submitted on: 4/11/2023 7:18:49 PM

Testimony for TRN on 4/13/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Zeb Jones	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Kila, and Honorable Committee Members:

I submit this testimony SUPPORTING SCR 59 (mirroring HCR 174 / HR 179) — urging cooperation among the State of Hawai`i, City and County of Honolulu, federal entities, AND private land owners to permanently AND immediately open the Section of the Wai`anae Coast Emergency Access Road connecting Pa`akea Road and Lualualei Naval Road for public use.

As a long-time Wai`anae resident, I VIVIDLY recall the aftermath of Hurricane Iniki in September 1992 AND our inability to leave or return to the Leeward Coast for at about 1 week. As present, Farrington Highway is the ONLY regular access and egress route for all Leeward Coast communities. On numerous occasions, Farrington Highway has endured numerous shutdowns due to weather, catastrophic traffic accidents, major construction bridge/road work and flooding due to water main breaks – among other reasons. At present, the Wai`anae Coast Emergency Access Road consists of gated roads that can ONLY be opened when deemed necessary or when requested by the Honolulu Police Department. The only other access/egress route off the Wai`anae Coast is the Kolekole Pass road, which is STILL – after over a decade – undergoing repairs and can only be used by emergency vehicles in the event of catastrophic natural disasters. Due to the severe lack of Leeward Coast road access, the critical alternate route that is the Wai`anae Coast Emergency Access Road MUST be made permanently open for use by Leeward Coast residents. And this can only occur if ALL parties involved are urged/badgered into working together to make this a reality in 2023.

For these key reasons and alleviate Leeward Coast traffic and improve public safety, I respectfully urge your Committee to please pass SCR 59 (which mirrors HCR 174 / HR 179) with sufficient funding if necessary -- and to please ensure that these combined efforts begin ideally in 2023 so that all Leeward Coast communities can benefit from this accessway as soon as practical.

Mahalo for this opportunity to present this testimony supporting SCR 59.

Zeb Jones

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SCR-59

Submitted on: 4/12/2023 4:13:18 PM

Testimony for TRN on 4/13/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Paul Aio	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony being submitted in support of SCR59 the Opening of Paakea Road that intersects with Hakimo. That Paakea Road be open to everyday traffic from Hakimo to Lualualei Naval Rd. That the roadway and its curtileg (curbs, shrubs, debris and rubbish) be cleared and maintained by the City, State and Private landowners for routine traffic. That the roadway be cleared, marked and have traffic signs so that vehicle traffic would flow safely.